

Claims:

1. A device for use in parietal surgery, the device comprising a body; a parietal surgical implant, the parietal surgical implant being locatable in a collapsed state about or within the body, the parietal surgical implant being adapted to be displaceable between the collapsed state and an expanded state; and means for expanding the parietal surgical implant from the collapsed state into the expanded state
2. A device according to claim 1 in which the parietal surgical implant is locatable within the body; and means are provided for retaining the parietal surgical implant within the body in the collapsed state, the retaining means being operable to expose the parietal surgical implant.
3. A device according to claim 2 in which the retaining means comprises a sleeve within which the parietal surgical implant is locatable, the sleeve being displaceable relative to the parietal surgical implant in order to expose the parietal surgical implant.
4. A device according to any preceding claim in which the body is of elongate tubular form.
5. A device according to claim 3 or 4 further comprising an actuator operable to effect displacement of the sleeve relative to the parietal surgical implant.
6. A device according to any preceding claim in which the body is provided with means for gripping the body in order to facilitate manipulation of the device.
7. A device according to claim 6, when dependent on any of claims 3 to 5, in which the actuator is located at or adjacent the gripping means, the actuator being operatively associated with the sleeve.

8. A device according to claim 7 in which the actuator is mounted for slidable engagement with the body.
9. A device according to any preceding claim in which the parietal surgical implant comprises a mesh having a mesh perimeter and a shaft mounting area, the mesh being mounted to a shaft; and the expanding means is slidably mounted about the shaft, the expanding means being displaceable towards the mesh, in order to urge the mesh towards the expanded state.
10. A device according to claim 9 in which the expanding means comprises a collar slidably mounted about the shaft, and at least one arm mounted between the collar and an arm mounting position of the mesh, the arm mounting position being spaced apart from the shaft mounting area.
11. A device according to claim 10 in which the expanding means comprises a plurality of arms mounted about the collar, the plurality of arms being secured to a plurality of the arm mounting positions of the mesh, the arm mounting positions being spaced apart from the shaft mounting area.
12. A device according to claim 10 or 11 in which the or each arm mounting position is located adjacent the mesh perimeter.
13. A device according to claim 11 or 12 in which the plurality of arm mounting positions are spaced apart on the mesh perimeter.
14. A device according to any of claims 9 to 13 in which the shaft mounting area is substantially centrally located.
15. A device according to any of claims 11 to 14 in which the mesh is substantially circular and the shaft mounting area is located substantially centrally

therein; and the plurality of arm mounting positions are circumferentially spaced apart on the mesh perimeter.

16. A device according to any of claims 9 to 15 in which the shaft is provided with a shaft handle displaceable relative to the body, such that the mesh may be drawn towards the expanding means in order to effect expansion of the mesh.

17. A device according to any of claims 9 to 16 in which the mesh is separable from the shaft.

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18. A device according to any of claims 9 to 17 in which the mesh and the shaft are adapted for a press fit engagement.

19. A device according to any of claims 9 to 18 in which the shaft is formed from a material which may be cut by conventional surgical equipment.

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20. A device according to any of claims 9 to 19 further comprising an abutment against which, in use, the mesh may be seated, once separated from the shaft, in order to secure the mesh in place.

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21. A device according to any preceding claim in which the body is provided with a distensible member thereon.

22. A device according to claim 21 in which the distensible member comprises a balloon connectable to a fluid supply in order to effect the inflation thereof.

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23. A device according to any preceding claim in which the parietal surgical implant is formed from a biodegradable material.

24. A parietal surgical implant for use as a replacement part for a device according to any of claims 1 to 23, the parietal surgical implant being provided in

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a collapsed state, and being adapted to be displaceable between the collapsed state and an expanded state.

25. A parietal surgical implant according to claim 24 comprising a mesh
5 having a mesh perimeter and a shaft mounting area, the mesh being mounted to a shaft; and expanding means slidably mounted about the shaft, the expanding means being displaceable towards the mesh in order to urge the mesh towards the expanded state.

10 26. A parietal surgical implant according to claim 25 in which the expanding means comprises a collar slidably mounted about the shaft, and at least one arm mounted between the collar and an arm mounting position of the mesh, the arm mounting position being spaced apart from the shaft mounting area.

15 27. A parietal surgical implant according to claim 26 in which the expanding means comprises a plurality of arms mounted about the collar, the plurality of arms being secured to a plurality of the arm mounting positions of the mesh, the arm mounting positions being spaced apart from the shaft mounting area.

20 28. A method of surgical repair at a surgical repair site, comprising the steps of;
providing a device according to any of claims 1 to 23;
passing the parietal surgical implant, in the collapsed state, through an incision into a position adjacent the surgical repair site;
25 expanding the parietal surgical implant from the collapsed state into an expanded state; and
securing the parietal surgical implant against the surgical site.

29. A method according to claim 28 further comprising the steps of:
30 providing the parietal surgical implant as a mesh mounted in a collapsed state about or within the body;

providing expanding means slidably mounted on the body; and
expanding the mesh by displacing the expanding means towards the mesh, in
order to urge the mesh towards the expanded state.